

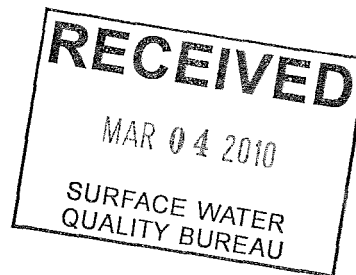


UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

FEB 26 2010



Ron Curry, Secretary  
New Mexico Environment Department  
P. O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Dear Mr. Curry:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to your January 12, 2010, letter requesting approval of the *Escherichia coli* (E. coli) total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for three stream segments in the San Juan River Basin. As noted in your letter, the State of New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) prepared and submitted a final TMDL for both fecal coliform and E. coli on June 14, 2005. On August 26, 2005, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6 reviewed and approved only the fecal coliform portion of the TMDL. EPA could not take an approval action on the E. coli TMDL, because the State of New Mexico did not have EPA approved water quality criterion for E. coli. Since the August 26, 2005, TMDL approval the State has adopted, and EPA has approved, a numeric water quality criterion for E. coli.


Based on our evaluation of the June 14, 2005, E. coli TMDLs, we conclude that the TMDLs meet the requirements found in Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and the implementing regulations found at 40 CFR §130.7. EPA is pleased to approve the E. coli loadings contained in the TMDLs for the water bodies listed below.

<u>Water Body</u>	<u>Subsegment Number</u>	<u>Pollutant of Concern</u>
La Plata River - McDermott Arroyo to CO border	NM-2402.A_01	E. coli
San Juan River – Navajo bnd at Hogback to Animas River	NM-2401_10	E. coli
San Juan River – Animas River to Cañon Largo	NM-2401_00	E. coli

EPA also approves these loadings as updates to the State of New Mexico Water Quality Management Plan. We commend you and your staff for the considerable effort that went into developing these TMDLs. If you would like to discuss these approvals, please contact me at (214) 665-7101 or Linda Adams of my staff as (214) 665-6546.

Sincerely yours,



 Miguel I. Flores  
Director  
Water Quality Protection Division

Enclosure

cc: Heidi Henderson, NMED  
James Hogan, NMED

## Enclosure

### TMDL Wasteload Allocations for E. coli in the San Juan River Basin.

Assessment Unit	Facility	Allocation*	NPDES	Expiration Date
<b>NM-2401_10</b> San Juan River-Navajo bnd at Hogback to Animas River	City of Farmington WWTP	$3.19 \times 10^{10}$	NM0020583	December 31, 2008
	Kirtland Sewer Treatment Facility	$2.39 \times 10^8$	NM0029319	February 28, 2011
	BIA/Nenahnezad Boarding School	$5.25 \times 10^7$	NM0020800	Region 9 (Navajo)
	Harper Valley	$4.58 \times 10^8$	NM0029025	June 30, 2011
<b>NM-2401_00</b> San Juan River-Animas River to Canon Largo	City of Bloomfield WWTP	$4.30 \times 10^9$	NM0020700	August 31, 2014
	Blanco School	$1.15 \times 10^7$	NM0028142	October 31, 2005
	McGee Park	$2.39 \times 10^8$	NM0030473	November 30, 2008

\*cfu/day